

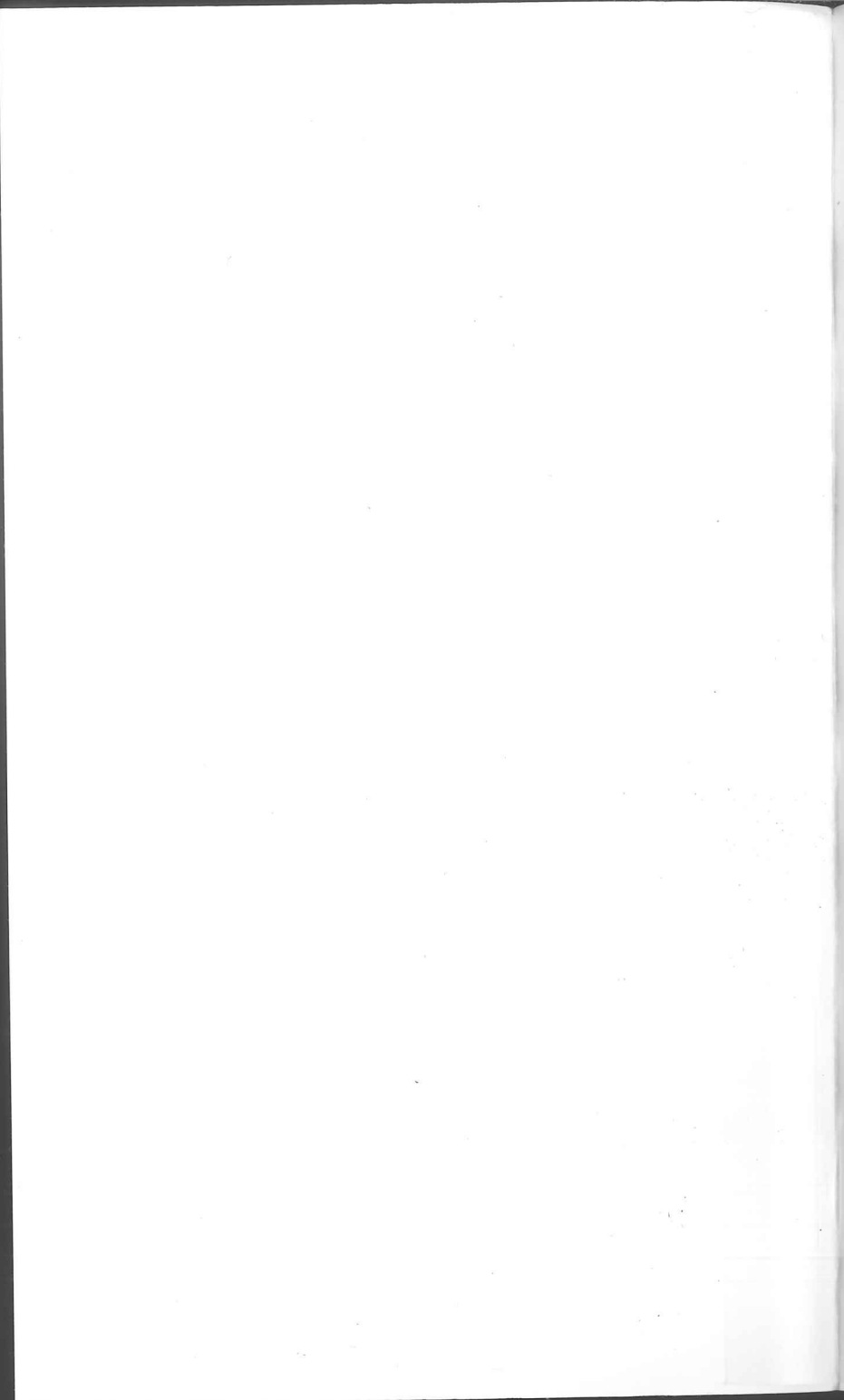
Modern Gikuyu Dictionary



Gikuyu-English
English-Gikuyu

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Gikuyu-English

English-Gikuyu

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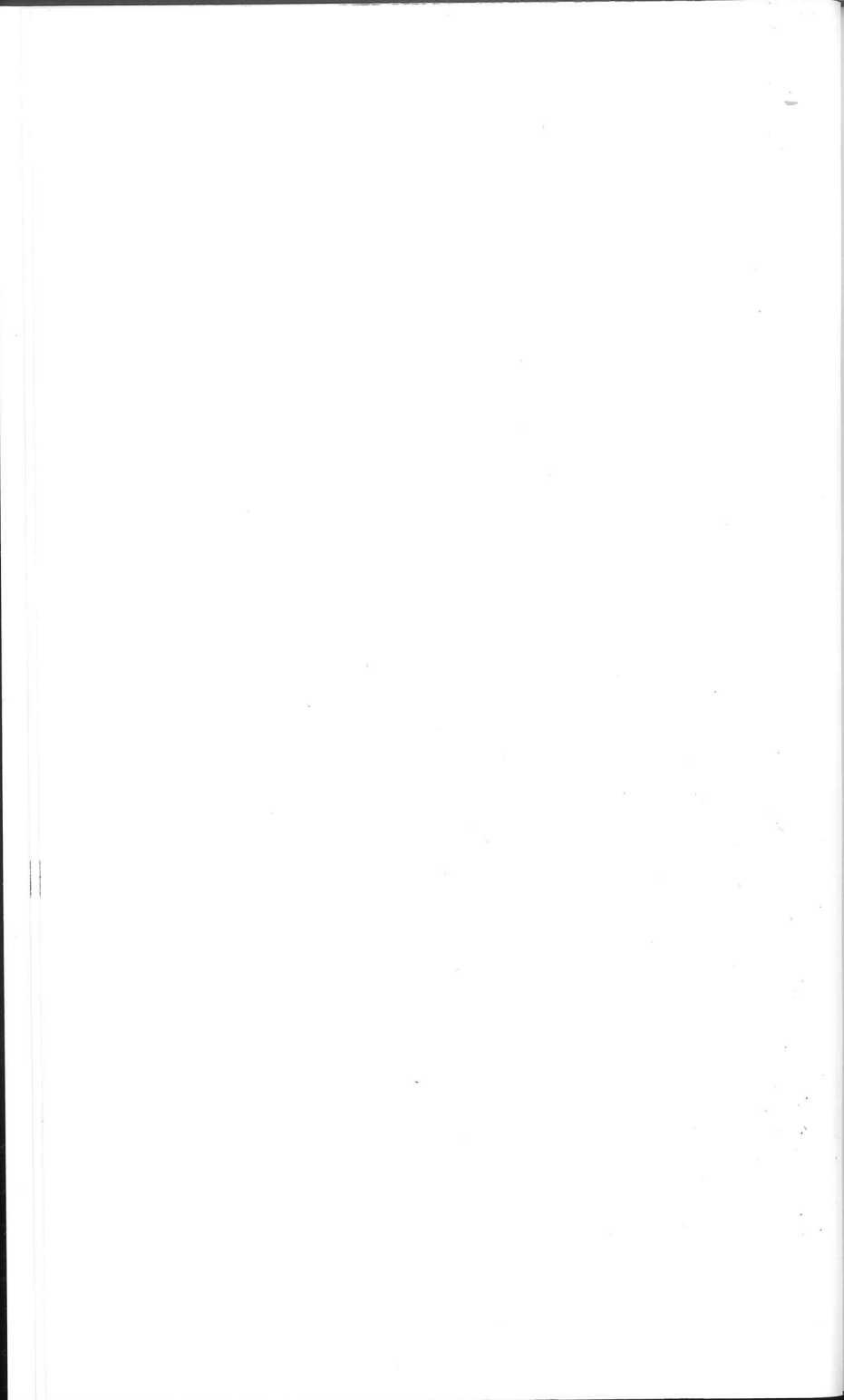
Read Gikuyu. Every day
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Modern Gikuyu dictionary

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Auntie Dorcas



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How to use this dictionary

Hello! This dictionary is created to help you learn better! Keep it by your side when reading English and Gikuyu books.

If you are reading and you never have to use a dictionary, then it means you are ready to read more advanced texts! Well done!

Entries in this dictionary are arranged alphabetically in both the GIKUYU-ENGLISH section and the ENGLISH-GIKUYU section. Here is the Gikuyu alphabet to jog your memory:

Aa	Bb	Cc	Dd	Ee	Gg
Hh	Ii	Ĩĩ	Jj	Kk	Mm
Nn	Oo	Rr	Tt	Uu	Ũũ
Ww	Yy				

Here are some abbreviations used in this dictionary to show you the function of the word in a sentence:

Abbreviation	Meaning
n	A noun is a name
adj	An adjective shows the quality of a noun
p	A pronoun points to a noun
v	A verb is an action
adv	An adverb shows the intensity of a verb

We wish you many happy reading adventures in English and Gikuyu!

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Modern Gikuyu

Modern Gikuyu is a more readable form of written Gikuyu.

This short guide is designed to get you up to speed quickly with the modern Gikuyu language. We hope that after getting through it you will be able to read, write and speak basic Gikuyu sentences to express the following range of concepts:

1. I love you
2. Omari and Abdi are boys
3. John came here before I did
4. Who is that?
5. Amina will come home tomorrow
6. I came, I saw, I conquered
7. They do not like that
8. How did they eat five pizzas in two hours?
9. The family has entered their new house
10. Stop eating and hurry up!

For teachers of Gikuyu, this guide should provide you a basic outline for getting your new language learners to master the basic structure of the Gikuyu language. **Modern Gikuyu** is a spelling system for Gikuyu that uses spaces to separate pronouns from verbs. It is the spelling system used in this book.

Some explanations

In the text, any text marked with * indicates ungrammatical usage. Bolded text can be looked up in the index. The guide attempts to use plain English the first time a concept is explained; in this case the technical term is included in square brackets.

Pronunciations are surrounded by /.../ signs.

Written form a

Spoken form /a/

English translations are placed in italics in [] near their Gikuyu renditions.

We hope that this guide will help open up the culture of the Gikuyu-speaking peoples all over the world to you.

Reading Gikuyu

The easiest way to learn the rules [**grammar**] of a language is to read text written in that language. This section will help you analyse Gikuyu texts to extract meaning from them.

Recognising letters

Gikuyu is written with 20 letters [**alphabet**] (1).

Recognising words

The main types of words--**parts of speech**--used in Gikuyu are those that represent persons, places, things or ideas--**nouns**, and actions--**verbs**.

Aa	Bb	Cc	Dd	Ee	Gg
Hh	Ii	Ĩĩ	Jj	Kk	Mm
Nn	Oo	Rr	Tt	Uu	Ũũ
Ww	Yy				

Table 1: Gikuyu alphabet

Nouns

The nouns in every language are unlimited. Everything that has a name is a noun. Nouns can be represented by a single word or a group of words. Languages grow by making up new nouns to represent new things.

There are two main types of Modern Gikuyu nouns:

person nouns, and
regular nouns.

Note that formal written Gikuyu often has up to 10 types of nouns!

Gikuyu nouns dictate a lot about how the other parts of speech in a sentence are written down. This behaviour is called **concord** because all the parts of speech must agree with each other in a grammatically correct sentence.

When there is just one item of the noun [**singular**] or the noun cannot be counted, you do not need to modify the spelling in any way. When there is more than one [**plural**] of the noun, the spelling is modified to indicate this.

Regular nouns and person nouns form their plurals differently.

Person nouns

Person nouns generally begin with **mũ** when referring to the singular person. When referring to the plural, **mũ** [/mo/] is replaced by a [/a/] at the beginning (**prefix**) of the person noun.

Where the singular begins with **ka**, it is replaced in the plural by **tũ**.

	Singular	Plural
Gikuyu	mũtumia	atumia
English	woman	women
Gikuyu	mũthuri	athuri
English	man	men
Gikuyu	kairĩtu	tũirĩtu
English	girl	girls
Gikuyu	kahĩĩ	tũhĩĩ
English	boy	boys

Table 2: Person nouns

Regular nouns

Regular nouns form plurals predictably depending on their meaning (semantic class).

<i>Suggests</i> not a person	<i>Singular</i> mũ	<i>Plural</i> mĩ
	<u>mũtĩ</u> [tree]	<u>mĩtĩ</u> [trees]
	<u>mũrango</u> [door]	<u>mĩrango</u> [doors]
	<u>mũkebe</u> [tin]	<u>mĩkebe</u> [tins]
objects	gĩ	i
	<u>gĩtĩ</u> [chair]	<u>itĩ</u> [chairs]
	<u>gĩkombe</u> [cup]	<u>ikombe</u> [cups]
	<u>gĩtanda</u> [bed]	<u>itanda</u> [beds]
objects	r	ma
	<u>ritho</u> [eye]	<u>maitho</u> [eyes]

Table 3: Regular nouns and their meaning-based groups.

So if the singular starts with **mũ**, the plural is formed by changing **mũ** to

- **a** if a person, or
- **mĩ** if not a person.

If the singular starts with **gĩ**, the plural is formed by changing **gĩ** to **i**.

When in doubt, try with **mũ** as the singular prefix, and **ma** as the plural prefix for nouns.

Describe Nouns - Adjectives

The quality of a noun is described by **adjectives**. Adjectives are placed after the noun. For example,

nyũmba njerũ [new house].

Again, since the noun dictates the form of all the other parts of speech, there are also two main types of adjectives:

- **person adjectives**, and
- **regular adjectives**.

Each adjective used to describe a noun must agree with the noun. Adjectives take the same prefixes as nouns.

Person adjectives

When an adjective describes a singular person noun, **mũ** is attached in front of the adjective. In older texts, this may also be represented as **mw**.

When referring to a plural person noun, **a** is attached to the front of the adjective. In older texts, the **a** may not be present since in the spoken form it is hardly distinct from the next vowel in the adjective.

Regular adjectives

Regular adjectives form alliterations with the nouns they are describing.

As with nouns, when in doubt, try with **mũ** as the singular prefix, and **ma** as the plural prefix for adjectives.

	Singular	Plural
Swahili	<u>m</u> ūtumia <u>m</u> ūerũ	<u>a</u> tumia <u>a</u> erũ
English	new wife	new wives
Swahili	<u>m</u> ūiritũ <u>m</u> ūthaka	<u>a</u> iritũ <u>a</u> thaka
English	beautiful lady	beautiful ladies
Swahili	<u>m</u> ūrutani <u>m</u> ūūrũ	<u>a</u> rutani <u>a</u> ūrũ
English	bad teacher	bad teachers

Table 4: Adjectives **erũ**, **thaka**, and **ūrũ** with person nouns.

<u>m</u> ũ	<u>m</u> ĩ
<u>m</u> ūrango <u>m</u> ūerũ [new door]	<u>m</u> ĩrango <u>m</u> īerũ [new doors]
<u>m</u> ūti <u>m</u> ūega [good tree]	<u>m</u> ĩti <u>m</u> īega [good trees]
<u>g</u> ĩ	<u>n</u> j
<u>g</u> ĩti <u>k</u> īerũ [new chair]	<u>ĩ</u> tĩ <u>n</u> jerũ [new chairs]
<u>g</u> ĩti <u>k</u> īega [good chair]	<u>ĩ</u> tĩ <u>n</u> jega [good chairs]
<u>r</u> ĩ	<u>ma</u>
<u>r</u> itho <u>r</u> īerũ [new eye]	<u>ma</u> itho <u>ma</u> erũ [new eyes]
<u>r</u> ĩtho <u>r</u> īega [good eye]	<u>ma</u> itho <u>ma</u> ega [good eyes]
<u>m</u> ũ	<u>ma</u>
<u>ũ</u> thiũ <u>m</u> ūerũ [new face]	<u>mo</u> thiũ <u>ma</u> erũ [new faces]
<u>ũ</u> thiũ <u>m</u> ūega [good face]	<u>mo</u> thiũ <u>ma</u> ega [good faces]

Table 5: Adjectives **erũ** and **ega** with regular nouns.

Determiners

Where there is an article, it is written after the noun.

- definite articles

kairĩtu kau [the girl], kahĩĩ kau [the boy]

kahĩĩ karĩa [that boy]

- indefinite articles

kahĩĩ [a boy, or, boy]

mũgima [an adult, or, adult]

kahĩĩ o ũguo [some boy]

Pronouns

Happily, pronouns can stand in for any noun. Which means that if you don't know the name of something, point at it and use a pronoun to refer to it instead!

There are two main types--just like the nouns they refer to:

person pronouns, and
regular pronouns.

Person pronouns

Subject pronouns usually replace a person noun at the beginning of a sentence. All subject pronouns come before a verb. For example,

nĩ thiaga [*I go*].

In older texts, the pronoun is usually written together with the verb as **nĩthiaga**.

nĩ	<i>I</i>	ndi	<i>not I</i>
nĩũ	<i>you</i>	ndũ	<i>not you</i>
nĩa	<i>she/he</i>	nda	<i>not she/not he</i>
nĩtũ	<i>we</i>	tũti	<i>not we</i>
nĩmũ	<i>you (plural)</i>	mũti	<i>not you (plural)</i>
nĩma	<i>they</i>	mati	<i>not they</i>

Table 6: Subject pronouns for person nouns

Object pronouns come right before the verb when used. Object pronouns, listed in Table 7, are also written alone. For example,

Nĩũ nye ndete [(*You me love**) *You love me*].

nĩa nye ndete	he loves me
nĩa kwe ndete	he loves you
nĩa mwe ndete	he loves her
nĩa mwe ndete	she loves him
nĩa twe ndete	he loves us
nĩa mwe ndete	he loves you (plural)
nĩa me ndete	he loves them

Table 7: Object pronouns for person nouns.

Regular pronouns

Regular pronouns behave similarly. But there are only two to remember: **it**, and **they/them**.

They are placed right before the verb whenever they are used. Look at this example involving **gũthoma** [*to read*]

Ibuku rĩĩ. Nĩ-ndĩ-rĩ-thomete
[*This book. I have read it*].

Mabuku maya. Nĩ-ndĩ-ma-thomete
[*These books. I have read them*]

Interrogative pronouns, listed in Table 8, are used to ask questions.

Gikuyu	English
nũ	who
nĩkĩ	what
nĩkĩ gĩtũmi	why
kũ	where
atĩa	how
ĩrĩkũ	which

Table 8: Interrogative pronouns.

Verbs

Remember to ask yourself whenever you see a Gikuyu verb:

- what is the indication of the period of time in which the action took place [**tense**]?,

The Infinitive - Describe the verb's action

In English, the infinitive is indicated by **to** placed before the verb. In Gikuyu, it is either **kũ**, or **gũ** if the verb starts with **c, k, t, th** or a vowel.

Gikuyu	English
gũ-ika	to do
gũ-kua	to die
gũ-thoma	to read
kũ-geithia	to greet
kũ-ria	to eat

Table 9: Infinitive verbs

Present Habitual - Action takes place habitually

This is for actions that take place on a regular basis [**habitual tense**]. Note that this tense doesn't use special pronouns.

Gikuyu	Literal English
nĩĩ nĩ thomaga	Me, I read habitually
Amina nĩa thomaga	Amina, she reads habitually

Table 10: Simple present habitual tense.

Present Continuous - Action is taking place

This is for an action in the process of taking place. It is indicated with **ra** in front of the verb.

Gikuyu	Literal English
nĩ rathoma	I am reading
Amina nĩa rathoma	Amina, she is reading

Table 11: Simple present continuous tense.

Past - Action took place in the past

The simple past is indicated by adding **ra** to the front of the verb AND replacing the **a** at the end of the verb with **ire**.

Gikuyu	Literal English
nĩ rathekire	I cooked
Amina nĩa rathekire	Amina, she cooked

Table 12: Past simple tense.

Future - Action will take place

The future tense is indicated by inserting the Gikuyu for **will** in front of the verb. **will** is indicated by **ka** or **ga** if the verb starts with **c, k, t, th** or a vowel.

Gikuyu	Literal English
nĩ gathoma	I will read
Amina nĩa gathoma	Amina, she will read
nĩ karia	I will eat
Amina nĩa karia	Amina, she will eat

Table 13: Future simple tense.

Describe Verbs - Adverbs

Adverbs describe the intensity of an action.

Like **adjectives**, **adverbs** are also placed after the verb. For example,

we nĩũ rĩaga **ihenya** [you, you eat *quickly*].

Recognising sentences

There are three main sentence patterns you can use to communicate with others:

- making a statement [**declarative sentences**]
- asking a question [**interrogative sentences**]
- commanding [**imperative sentences**]

Making a statement

e.g. *I love you.*

Gikuyu	Word Order	ni	kwe	ndete
	Grammar	[Noun]	[Noun]	[Verb]
		<i>required</i>	<i>optional</i>	<i>required</i>
	Literally*	I	you	love

So in the negative, *I do not love you* will follow the same pattern:

Gikuyu Word Order	ndi	kwe	ndete
Grammar	[Noun]	[Noun]	[Verb]
	<i>required</i>	<i>optional</i>	<i>required</i>
Literally*	not I	you	love

Asking a question

e.g. *Where are you going?*

Gikuyu Word Order	Wa	thĩ	kũ?
Grammar	[Noun]	[Verb]	[Interrogative pronoun]
	<i>required</i>	<i>required</i>	<i>required</i>
Literally*	You	go	where?

Commanding

e.g. *Stop making noise!*

Gikuyu Word Order	Tiga	kūnegena!
Grammar	[Verb]	[Noun]
	<i>required</i>	<i>optional</i>
Literally*	Stop	making noise!

Forming complex sentences

Conjunctions allow you to combine two or more similar components. These components may be two or more. For example, two nouns, or, three verbs, or five sentences.

Some common conjunctions are listed in Table 14.

Gikuyu	Omari na Abdi	rĩai na mũcoke mũkome
English	Omari and Abdi	eat and then sleep
Gikuyu	Omari kana Abdi	nĩakomete kwoguo koma
English	Omari or Abdi	I am sleeping so sleep
Gikuyu	Akorwo Amina ...	Akorwo Amina nĩagũka nawe , ...
English	If Amina ...	If Amina comes then ...
Gikuyu	Ngĩ ...	Ona ndakorwo ngomete ...
English	While, When I ...	Even if I sleep ...

Table 14: Common conjunctions.

Prepositions on the other hand are placed after nouns to indicate the position of some other noun. Table 15 lists some common prepositions.

Gikuyu	nĩ ta fufu	ta ũrĩa Buliva aroigire
English	it is like fufu	as Buliva said
Gikuyu	thĩĩ ni	thĩĩ thĩ
English	go in	go down
Gikuyu	thĩĩ mbere ya Amina oke	thĩĩ ume haha
English	go before Amina comes	go from here
Gikuyu	ũka hakuĩ nanĩĩ	thĩĩ thutha
English	come near me	go behind

Table 15: Common prepositions.

The following sentence patterns therefore become easy to understand:

Omari a-rathĩĩ cukuru

[*Omari, he-go school

(Omari is going to school)]

Omari na Abdi ma-rathĩĩ cukuru

[*Omari and Abdi, they-go school

(Omari and Abdi are going to school)]

Omari na Abdi wa nĩma-komete mbere ya ma-thĩĩ cukuru

[*Omari and Abdi, they are sleeping before they go school

(Omari and Abdi are sleeping before they go to school)]

How to use a dictionary

Entries are listed first in order of appearance of their first letter. If the first letters are the same, they are further listed in order of appearance of their second letter. If the second letters are the same, they are further listed in order of appearance of their third letter. And so on.

Nouns are listed in the singular form. **kahĩ** [boy]

Verbs are listed in their positive form without the infinitive prefix. **thoma** [read]

Adjectives are listed without any indicator of noun agreement. **erũ** [new]

Figure 1. Schematic diagram of the experimental setup. The subject is seated in a chair, viewing a screen displaying a target (a red dot) and a starting point (a green dot). The subject's hand is positioned at the starting point, and the target is located at a distance of 10 cm from the starting point. The subject is instructed to move the hand to the target as quickly and accurately as possible. The screen is positioned at a distance of 40 cm from the subject's eyes. The starting point is marked by a green dot, and the target is marked by a red dot. The distance between the starting point and the target is 10 cm. The subject's hand is positioned at the starting point, and the target is located at a distance of 10 cm from the starting point. The screen is positioned at a distance of 40 cm from the subject's eyes. The starting point is marked by a green dot, and the target is marked by a red dot. The distance between the starting point and the target is 10 cm. The subject's hand is positioned at the starting point, and the target is located at a distance of 10 cm from the starting point. The screen is positioned at a distance of 40 cm from the subject's eyes. The starting point is marked by a green dot, and the target is marked by a red dot. The distance between the starting point and the target is 10 cm.

GIKUYU-ENGLISH

A, a

a lend (v)

mpa iuku riri lend me this book

aciari parents (n)

aciari bawe his parents

Afrika Africa (n)

Cera Afrika visit Africa

aga bata disgrace (v)

ugwe ni uku aga bata yakku you
are disgracing yourself

ageni foreigner (n)

ageni bagukinya the foreigners
have arrived

ai ouch (excl)

ai! irina murimo Ouch! It hurts

aka build (v)

aka nyomba build a house

aki just (adj)

ni waa aki it is just folly

amba paste (v)

amba ruthingone to paste it on the
wall

ambiiria begin (v)

ambiiria kuria start eating

anda plant (v)

anda muti to plant a tree

antu humankind (n)

turi antu we are humankind

antu banaana eight persons (n)

antu banaana ibeejite eight per-
sons are coming

antu betu in-law (n)

antu betu our in-laws

antu kenda nine persons (n)

antu kenda nibejite nine persons
are coming

ari no (excl)

nkuga ari I say no

ariiria bargain (v)

ariiria uguri bargain over price

aritwa student (n)

aritwa mirongo iri twenty stu-
dents

atha govern (v)

atha Ghana govern Ghana

athaki cast (n)

athaki ba sinema cast of a film

athukira branch (v)

athukira aja branch here

atia how (adv)

urigua atia? how does it feel?

au just (prep)

Oriria akinyire au just as he got

there

B, b

baba these (p)
antu baba bareja these people came
babaingi several (adj)
antu babaingi ibeejire several people came
baisikili bicycle (n)
baisikili injeru new bicycle
baita profit (n)
thithia baita make profit
bajuuju batene ancestor (n)
bajuuju batene bakwa my ancestors
banga plan (v)
kiongo kimwe gitibangaga one head does not plan
banga arrange (v)
banga iti arrange the chairs
bathurumu lavatory (n)
ita bathurumu go to the lavatory
batithia baptise (v)
batithia John baptise John
bendera flag (n)
bendera ya yeluu yellow flag
bionthe all (det)
into bionthe all things
bionthe everything (p)
bionthe biguita bwega everything has gone well
bisi fees (n)
bisi ya cukuru school fees

bongwa themselves (p)
bagucimenyeera bongwa they look after themselves well
bonthe everyone (p)
bonthe bakeeja everyone will come
bonthe each and everyone (p)
bonthe bareeja each and everyone came
bubuega clearly (adv)
niukumiona bubuega you see it clearly
buuruka fly (v)
buuruka iguru matuune to fly into the sky
bwega very (adv)
ukuthithia bwega you have done very well
bwega clearly (adv)
niukumiona bwega you see it clearly

C, c

canura comb (v)
*tumira gucanuri gucanura nchi-
 uri ciaku* use a comb to comb your hair
cenca march (v)
asikari ni bagucenca the soldiers are marching
cerithiria delay (v)
ugucerithiria you have delayed
chai tea (n)
chai iri na murio the tea is sweet

chenji change (n)
wina chenji do you have change?
cia for (prep)
cia bautwi for ourselves
cibitari hospital (n)
ita cibitari go to a hospital
cimiti cement (n)
maiga na cimiti stones and cement
ciothe all (det)
Indo ciothe all things
cukuru school (n)
 a place where learning happens
I learn to read at school
cuna lick (v)
kuru ni igucuna kironda kiayo
 the dog is licking its sore
cunca kiss (v)
cunca miromo yakwa kiss my lips
cuncha embrace (v)
ncuncha embrace me
cuuba bottle (n)
cuuba ithano five bottles
cuuma metal (n)
nkobia ya cuuma hat of metal
cuuria hang (v)
cuuria au hang it there
cwaa look for (v)
cwaa maana to look for meaning

D, d

daawa medicine (n)
daawa iri na ngana bitter
 medicine

dakinga second (n)
ndakinga ikumi ten seconds

E, e

egera clear (v)
egera mimero clear your throat
ejana donate (v)
ejana kiri bo let us donate to them
enda love (v)
ni nkwendete I love you
enketha belch (v)
ria indi enketha eat then belch
ereithia explain (v)
mbereithia explain to me
eruka melt (v)
maguta ni ja kueruka the she-
 abutter is melting

F, f

famili family (n)
famili injeru new family
freshi fresh (adj)
mathangu freshi fresh leaves

G, g

ga let (v)
ga twaambire gikundi let us
 found a group
Gacicia June (n)
June has 30 days

- gaciu** knife (n)
noora gaciu sharpen a knife
gamba bark (v)
kuru ni iku-gamba a dog barks
garuka change (v)
igita riagaruka, garuka na igi-ita if time changes, change with the times
gatagati-inĩ ka amongst (prep)
Gatagati-inĩ ka andũ amongst people
gatigati amongst (prep)
gatigati ga antu amongst people
gatigati middle (adj)
kara gatigati be in the middle
gatu ga gwikira matu earpiece (n)
gantu gakeru gagwikira matu new earpiece
Gatumu December (n)
December has 31 days
gia give birth (v)
gia twana twa maatha to give birth to twins
gia iu be pregnant (v)
nkugia iu I am pregnant
gichanuri comb (n)
tumira gichanuri guchanura nchiuri use a comb to comb your hair
Gicunku English (n)
Mbaragia Gicunku I speak English
giempe drum (n)
inkuigua iempe I hear the drums
giita cut (v)
giita keki maita jairi to cut the cake in two
gikaro habitat (n)
gikaro kia nyomoo habitat of animals
gikeno happiness (n)
gikeno gigukinya happiness has arrived
gikiega good (adj)
kiewa gikiega a good gift
gikinya heel (n)
kiara gia kuguru na gikinya toe and heel
gikombe cup (n)
gikombe gia chai tea cup
gikonyo snail (n)
ni ndijaga gikonyo I eat snails
gikumenyeka distinguished (adj)
kiura gikumenyeka a distinguished frog
gikundi group (n)
twambirie gikundi let us found a group
gikundi grove (n)
gikundi kia miti grove of spirits
gikuyu fish (n)
gikuyu gikarangi fried fish
gikuyu fish (v)
twite tukagwatie gikuyu let's go and fish
gintu thing (n)
gintu, into the thing; the things
gintu gia kumamiria mutwe pillow (n)

<i>gintu gia kumamiria mutwe na</i>	<i>fallen down</i>
<i>gitanda pillow and bed</i>	<i>guaiya frighten (v)</i>
<i>gitambaa cloth (n)</i>	<i>guaiya antu babathuku frighten</i>
<i>ikira gitambaa wear cloth</i>	<i>evil people</i>
<i>gitambaa fabric (n)</i>	<i>guciata fast (v)</i>
<i>ngurira gitambaa buy fabric for</i>	<i>guciata na kuromba fast and pray</i>
<i>me</i>	
<i>gitambaa gia kiongo headgear</i>	<i>gucienda selfishness (n)</i>
<i>(n)</i>	<i>gucienda guti thongi selfishness is</i>
<i>oga gitambaa gia kiongo put on</i>	<i>not good</i>
<i>headgear</i>	<i>guciendithia befriend (v)</i>
<i>gitame garment (n)</i>	<i>guciendithia uni befriend me</i>
<i>ikira gitame wear a garment</i>	<i>gucindwa defeat (n)</i>
<i>gitanda bed (n)</i>	<i>ushindi na gucindwa victory and</i>
<i>Mama iguru ria gitanda sleep on</i>	<i>defeat</i>
<i>the bed</i>	<i>guciumia determination (n)</i>
<i>gitaru boat (n)</i>	<i>tutakithia na guciumia we will do</i>
<i>gitaru gigitune red boat</i>	<i>it with determination</i>
<i>Githathanwa May (n)</i>	<i>gukaatha exultation (n)</i>
<i>May has 31 days</i>	<i>ndwimbo cia gukaatha songs of</i>
<i>Githūngū English (n)</i>	<i>exultation</i>
<i>nīnjaragia Githūngū I speak En-</i>	<i>gukara bwega prosperity (n)</i>
<i>glish</i>	<i>thiiri na gukara bwega peace and</i>
<i>giti chair (n)</i>	<i>prosperity</i>
<i>banga iti arrange the chairs</i>	<i>gūkenania amusing (adj)</i>
<i>gituma noise (n)</i>	<i>Rūgano rwa gūkenania amusing</i>
<i>tiga kuringa gituma stop making</i>	<i>story</i>
<i>noise</i>	<i>gukenia entertaining (adj)</i>
<i>gitumi reason (n)</i>	<i>ni i gukenia it is entertaining</i>
<i>untu bunthe buri na gitumi ev-</i>	<i>gukia daybreak (n)</i>
<i>erything has a reason</i>	<i>gukia na muundu kuingira day-</i>
<i>guaa ndene fall into (v)</i>	<i>break and nightfall</i>
<i>guaa ndene ya kirinya fall into a</i>	<i>gukima pound (v)</i>
<i>pit</i>	<i>gukima fufu I pound fufu</i>
<i>guaa nthi fall down (v)</i>	<i>gukira fear (v)</i>
<i>nkara ikuguaa nthi the egg has</i>	<i>gukira irundu bia akuu fear an</i>

apparition

gukua die (v)

gukua urimuniini itindene to die
young in the play

gukua crawl (v)

mwana niagukua the child is
crawling

gukura grow (v)

mwana agukura the child has
grown

gukura mono overgrow (v)

nyunjuri igukura mono the back-
yard is overgrown

guntanga bother (v)

ugwe ni uguntanga you are both-
ering me

guntu place (n)

guntu kuriku? which place?

gura buy (v)

gura gintu to buy something

gura marry (v)

ngura marry me

gusumbura bother (n)

gusumbura mono too much
bother

guta gossip (v)

kumuguta gossip about her

gutanga bother (n)

gutanga gukuingi too much
bother

gūtaranīria addition (n)

$1 + 1 = 2$; **gūkū nī gūtaranīria** $1 + 1$
 $= 2$; this is addition

guteta argue (v)

guteta nawe argue with him

gutethani generosity (n)

gutethania gwaku your generos-
ity

gutikio nothing (n)

gutikio ndinakio I have nothing

gutu ear (n)

gutu na nyuiuru ear and nose

gutumiiria proclamation (n)

gutumiiria uhuru bwa umuntu
proclamation of the rights of hu-
mankind

guturikana overturn (v)

karai gagaturikana the pan has
overturned

gwakana blazing (adj)

mwanki ju gwakana blazing fire

gwata catch (v)

gwata mubira catch the ball

gwata hold (v)

gwata njara yakwa hold my hand

gwatia kindle (v)

gwatia mwanki kindle a fire

gwatithania attach (v)

gwatithania na ruthingo attach
to wall

gwenketha hiccups (n)

nia a gwenketha he has got the
hiccups

gwitikia doubt (n)

ati gwitikia she has doubts

gwitura leak (v)

mutungi juju ni jugwitura the
bucket leaks

I, i

- i njiru** black (adj)
nguo i njiru black cloth
i njumo dry (adj)
nthi i njumo dry land
i nkuru old (adj)
pani i nkuru old pan
i nthongi beautiful (adj)
ni i nthongi it is beautiful
ibuku book (n)
this book
icokio answer (v)
mpa icokio answer me
icungwa orange (adj)
ikira kobia ya rangi ya icungwa
wear the orange cap
iembe mango (n)
iembe rikuguunda the mango has ripened
iembe mango (n)
iembe rikugunda the mango has ripened
igiita moment (n)
igiita rikuthira the moment is up
igita period (n)
imwe gaturumo ithano ni imwe na nusu 1.5 is one and a half.
igo tooth (n)
thambia maigo jaku brush your teeth
igoro yesterday (adv)
arakinyire igoro she arrived yesterday
igoti court (n)
mbitite igotine I am going to court
igua ruriitho be jealous (v)
igua ruriitho iguru ria mukuru wawe be jealous over her husband
iguru sky (n)
buuruka wite iguru to fly into the sky
iguru on (prep)
mama iguru ria metha sleep on the table
iguru up (adv)
tega iguru look up
igwe mpio cool (v)
tiga igwe mpio let it cool
ija come (v)
kuija aja to come here
ijiri two (adj)
kuri na cuuba ijiri ruthingone
There are two bottles on the wall
ikia miruki breathe (v)
ikia miruki aniini; nogoka
breathe a little; take a breather
ikira kiongo memorize (v)
gwikira kiongo to memorize
ikumi na imwe eleven (adj)
cuuba ikumi na imwe eleven bottles
ikumi na inyanya eighteen (adj)
cuuba ikumi na inyanya eighteen bottles
ikumi na ithano fifteen (adj)
cuuba ikumi na ithano fifteen bottles
imenyithia news (n)
imenyithia bia mauntu news of

- the realm
imitune red (adj)
miromo imitune red lips
imwe one (adj)
kuri na cuuba imwe irungamire iguru ria nyomba There is one bottle standing on top of the house
indaaja long (adj)
kireru gikiraaja long beard
indi but (conj)
i nkumienda, indi I like it, but
indigo indigo (adj)
nguo ya indigo indigo cloth
inga chase (v)
gutiwe umwingatite no one is chasing him
inga close (v)
kuinga mulango to close the door
ingia increase (v)
wamba bukingia burglary is increasing
ingura aniini prop (v)
ingura murango aniini prop the door
ing`ana how much (adj)
ing`ana atia? how much is it?
inja dig (v)
inja irinya to dig a hole
injeru new (adj)
famili injeru new family
injumo parched (adj)
ngozi injumo parched skin
inkuru outdated (adj)
lori inkuru outdated lorry
inthuku bad (adj)
kuru inthuku bad dog
inya effort (n)
inya injega a good effort
inya press (v)
iinya maita mugwanja to press it seven times
inya power (n)
inya na unene strength and power
inya four (adj)
The number 4 *kuri na cuuba inya ruthingone* There are four bottles on the wall
inyanya eight (adj)
cuuba inyanya eight bottles
inyia fine (adj)
thia nye buru grind it finely
inyiiria oppress (v)
ni ugumpinyiiria you are oppressing me
irandu debt (n)
ena marandu ja maingi he has many debts
irandu owe (v)
ndina irandu riaku I owe you
iri na utheri bright (adj)
nyomba iri na utheri bright room
irigiritwe na iria island (n)
Sezchelles irigiritwe na iria Seychelles island
irigu banana (n)
iruki niliendete irigu a monkey likes bananas
irigu plantain (n)
irigu na mukwacii plantain and cassava

- irinda** dress (n)
irinda ria mbuluu blue dress
- irinya** pit (n)
inja irinya dig a pit
- irinya** hoe (n)
irinya hoe and cutlass
- irinya** hole (n)
irinya riniini small hole
- irio** food (n)
ria irio eat food
- iromba** prayer (n)
iromba ni ririthongi prayer is good
- iru** knee (n)
maru jakwa my knees
- iruki** monkey (n)
iruki riendete marigu a monkey likes bananas
- irundu bia akuu** apparition (n)
gukira irundu bia akuu fear an apparition
- irundu bibithuku** ghost (n)
ndiona irundu bibithuku I see a ghost
- Isilamu** Islam (n)
Ukristu na Uisilamu Christianity and Islam
- ita** go (v)
gwita cukuru to go to school
- ita** call (v)
ita kaiji to call the boy
- ita kioro** go to the toilet (v)
gwita kioro o kiumia to go to the toilet weekly
- ita mbere** proceed (v)
ita mbere kuona he proceeded to
- see*
- itanambere** continue (v)
itanambere na ngugi continue the work
- ithaa** hour (n)
mathaa ikumi ten hours
- ithangu** leaf (n)
ithangu ria ngirini green leaf
- ithano** five (adj)
 The number 5 *cuuba ithano* Five bottles
- ithanthatu** six (adj)
cuuba ithanthatu six bottles
- itharimo** blessing (n)
Itharimo bia murungu God's blessing
- ithe** father (n)
ithe wa mwana waka ni muntu wetu my father's child is my sibling
- ithia** burn (v)
ithia maratasi jonthe burn all the papers
- ithikira** grieve (v)
nkoro yaka ni ikuithikira my soul grieves
- ithori** tear (n)
meetho jakwa jojurite maithori my eyes filled with tears
- itia** be wrong (v)
ndina maitia? am I wrong?
- itikia** believe (v)
itikia Kofi believe Kofi
- itikiira** allow (v)
Kubaitikiira allow them

itikiiria accept (v)
ku mwitikiiria accept her
 itinda play (n)
tega itinda watch a play
 itithia drive (v)
gwitithia ngari drive a car
 itumbi ria munda garden egg
 (n)
gitwero kia itumbi ria munda
 garden egg stew
 itumo spear (n)
bamumuntire na itumo they
 pierced him with a spear
 ituu cloud (v)
iguru rikugia ituu the sky has
 clouded
 ituu cloud (n)
ituu ri rieru a white cloud
 ituura pour (v)
ituura ruuji pour water
 iu that (p)
nyoni iu that bird
 iu it (p)
iu ni iguaga it falls
 iua flower (n)
iua ririthongi pretty flower
 iuku book (n)
iuku riri this book
 iuti boil (n)
iuti riri murimo a boil is painful

J, j

jama jama (n)
ina jama sing jama

jollof jollof (n)
jollof ni irio jollof is food
 jukia pick up (v)
jukia maiga pick up the stones
 Jumamosi Saturday (n)
Twana twa muthenya jwa Ju-
mamosi Saturday children
 Jumatatũ Monday (n)
ciana cia Jumatatũ Monday chil-
 dren

K, k

kaari ka mwariocia niece (n)
aari ba mwariocia my nieces
 kaatha commend (v)
kumukaatha commend her
 kabati ga kwojera mati dust-
 pan (n)
kiegeri na kabati ga kwojera
 mati broom and dustpan
 kagiita gakoomo dry season (n)
kagiita gakoomo gagukinya the
 dry season has arrived
 kaiji boy (n)
Kaiji kari aja the boy is here
 kaingi often (adv)
ejaga aja kaingi she often comes
 here
 kairi again (adv)
kumwona kairi see her again
 kaja outside (n)
ita kaja go outside
 kajau calf (n)
Kajau kawe ni gakathongi her
 calves are beautiful

- kajea** dove (n)
kajea gakeeru white dove
kameme radio (n)
ingurira kameme switch on the radio
kamera camera (n)
gicicio gia kamera lens of a camera
kamindo cutlass (n)
neekeria kamindo give me the cutlass
Kamūgaa September (n)
September has 30 days
kana or (conj)
Kofi kana Ama Kofi or Ama
kana ka ngurwe piglet (n)
twana twa ngurwe piglets
kania forbid (v)
kania we forbid her
kanisa church (n)
ita kanisa go to church
Kanyua Hūngū November (n)
November has 30 days
kaora slowly (adv)
nkuru itaga kaora a tortoise walks slowly
karai pan (n)
karai gagakuru old pan
karamu pen (n)
rangi ya karamu ink in a pen
karamu ka mata pencil (n)
maguta kiri karamu ka mata grease in a pencil
karanga fry (v)
tumira maguta ja mboga
gukaranga gikuyu use vegetable oil to fry fish
karatasi page (n)
ingura karatasi ga mirongo iiri open page twenty-two
kathia deer (n)
simba niyendete nyama ya kathia a lion likes deer meat
kauna waist (n)
kauna gaku your waist
kauna bodice (n)
ekagira nguu ya kauna she wears a bodice
kayamba castanet (n)
inithia kayamba play the castanets
kebab khebab (n)
kebab na ncobi khebabs and beer
kenya na kenya forever (adv)
aturaga kenya na kenya she lives forever
kethia greet (v)
Kethia Ama greet Ama
kethira if (conj)
kethira ni a kwendete if someone loves you
kia fool (n)
Kia!! Kia! Fool! Dimwit!
kiao leniency (n)
mwigirue kiao show him leniency
kiao empathy (n)
ari na kiao she has such empathy
kiara finger (n)
mbonia kiara giaku show me your finger

kiara gia kuguru toe (n)

kiara gia kuguru na gikinya toe
and heel

kiatho event (n)

kiatho gikuambiriria the event
has started

kiatho party (n)

mbitite kiatho I am going to a
party

kiatho event (n)

kiatho gikwambiria the event has
started

kibara chest (n)

nchiuri cia kibara chest hair

kibodi keyboard (n)

iinya k kiri kibodi press k on the
keyboard

kiegeri broom (n)

kiegeri na kabati ga kwojera
mati broom and dustpan

kiewa award (n)

mue kiewa give her an award

kiewa gift (n)

kiewa gikiega a good gift

kigeranio exam (n)

kigeranio gikiuthu the exam is
easy

kigimbi goosebumps (n)

ndina kigimbi I have got goose-
bumps

kigongoana sacrifice (n)

rita kigongoana offer a sacrifice

kihoti-othe almighty (adj)

Ngai kihoti-othe almighty god

Kihu March (n)

March has 31 days

Kihu gĩa Kerĩ October (n)

October has 31 days

kiimba corpse (n)

kiimba igukora the corpse is rot-
ting

kilomita kilometer (n)

kilomita ikumi ten kilometers

kilomita kilometre (n)

kilomita ikumi ten kilometres

kimenyano favoritism (n)

tiga kimenyano stop the fa-
voritism

kimera plant (n)

kimera gigitune red plant

kingangiri crab (n)

subu ya kingangiri crab soup

kingangiri crocodile (n)

kingangiri kiendete gukara ruu-
jine a crocodile likes water

kingotore coin (n)

ingotore bina four coins

kinya arrive (v)

wakinya undingire thimu when
you arrive, call me

kinyiiria force (v)

ugwe ga ugunkinyiiria you are
forcing me

kiondo bag (n)

tiga kiondo look at the bag

kiongo mind (n)

kiongo kiawe her mind

kiongo head (n)

kiongo gikinene your big head

kiongone heading (n)

kiongone kia iuku book headings

kioni mirror (n)

kioni gikinene big mirror

kira quiet (adj)

kira kii be quiet

kiragutia butterfly (n)

kiragutia gikithongi a butterfly is beautiful

kiratasi paper (n)

kiratasi kia narua today's paper

kiratu shoe (n)

footwear that covers all of the foot
ikira iratu biaku wear your shoes

kireru beard (n)

kireru gikinene long beard

kirima hill (n)

kirima iguru hill top

kirima mountain (n)

kirima iguru mountain peak

kirindi crowd (n)

kirindi kiri na gituma noisy crowd

kiroria prophet (n)

kiroria wama powerful prophet

kithao inactive (n)

ni kithao he is inactive

kitheti basket (n)

Kamata kitheti carry a basket

kithomo reading (n)

cookera kithomo repeat the reading

kithomo education (n)

ugima bwa mwiri na kithomo health and education

kiu stomach (n)

kiu gikinene big stomach

kiu abdomen (n)

Kiu gia kuru abdomen of a dog

kiugu coop (n)

kiugu kia nguku hen coop

kiumia service (n)

kiumia gia gucokia nkaatho thanksgiving service

Kiumia Sunday (n)

Kwasi na Akosua nĩ ciana cia Kiumia Kwasi and Akosua are Sunday children

kiura frog (n)

kiura kiendete ruuji a frog likes water

kiuria question (n)

ndina kiuria I have a question

kobithia loan (v)

nkobithia mbeca loan me money

kochi coach (n)

kochi ya timu ya mubira jwa maguru a football team coach

kokoa cocoa (n)

muti jwa kokoa cocoa tree

kona corners (n)

kona cionthe cia nthiguru all corners of the world

korora cough (v)

korora nainya to cough profusely

koti court (n)

Mbitite kotini I am going to court

kuandanira falsification (n)

kwaria urongo na kuandanira lies and falsifications

kuaririria preface (n)

kuaririria iuku book preface

kuetheria pretend (v)
ni ukuetheria you are pretending
kugaa division (n)
ijiri kugaira imwe ni ijiri ; guku ni kugaa 2/1 = 2; this is division
kūgegania amazing (adj)
Rūgano rwa kūgegania amazing story
kugegania amusing (adj)
rugono rwa kugegania amusing story
kugia gain (v)
kethira ndi mwoyo, ni ninkugia gintu kionthe if I have life, I have gained everything
kugia matunda bear fruit (v)
muti jukugia matunda the tree has borne fruit
kugia mpio get wet (v)
guntu gukugia mpio the place has gotten wet
kugiana friction (n)
kugiana kurejira gatigati geetu friction came between us
kugitirwa igamba judgement (n)
Kugitirwa igamba ririku which judgement?
kugurana marriage (n)
kugurana gukuega good marriage

kuguru leg (n)
kuguru kuimbite swollen leg
kugwatagwata caress (v)
njara yawe ikugwatagwata her hand caresses it

kugwirirua appreciate (v)
ugwe utikugwirirua buu you do not appreciate this
kuigirua kiao pitiable (adj)
Kana gaka ni ga kuigirua kiao pitiable child
kuigithia bu bubuthuku disgusting (adj)
guntu kuu ni gu kuigithia bu bubuthuku the place is disgusting

kuigua bubui be ill (v)
ni nkuigua bubui I am ill
kuigua bui be guilty of (v)
ni tukuigua bui we are guilty
kuigua nthoni be shy (v)
ni nkuigua nthoni I am shy
kuina dance (v)
kuina na gikeno to dance with joy

kuinyiirua oppression (n)
Kuinyiirua!! such oppression!
kuithikira grief (n)
kuithikira ni gukumburaga grief is killing me
kuma carve (v)
kuma rubau carve the wood
kumemorise memorization (n)
kumemorise ni gukuthongi some memorization is good
kumenyeka become famous (v)
Nkrumah ni akumenyeka Nkrumah has become famous
kumenyerera protection (n)
mpa umenyerereri give me protection

- kumithia** praise (v)
gukumithia Ngai to praise God
- kumuntwa cindano** injection (n)
kumuntwa cindano kuri murimo
 an injection is painful
- kunga** crow (v)
nchamba ni igukunga a cockerel
 is crowing
- kungwata** have a hold on (v)
Mpara ikungwata hunger has a
 hold on me (I am hungry)
- kung'anana** equal (adj)
twinthe gatung'anene we are
 equal
- kunika** cover (v)
kunika na nguo; ikira nguo cover
 with cloth; dress in cloth
- kunikara** overflow (v)
muuro jukunikara the lake has
 overflowed
- kunja** fold (v)
kunja nguo ya ngina to fold
 mother's cloth
- kunja** bend (v)
kunja aniini bend it a bit
- kunthe** everywhere (p)
kunthe kuri na mwanki every-
 where is hot
- kunya** pinch (v)
tiga gunkunya stop pinching me
- kunyanira** betray (v)
ugankunyanira do not betray me
- kunyua** drink (v)
kunyua ruuji to drink water
- kura** pluck (v)
kura itunda pluck fruit
- kurakaria** annoying (adj)
Nĩ wa kurakaria hari we it is an-
 noying to you
- kuriganirua** forgetfulness (n)
kuriganirua kwawe her forgetful-
 ness
- kurigarania** amazing (adj)
rugono rwa kurigarania amazing
 story
- kurio** early (adv)
wije kurio come early
- kurita** deduct (v)
kurita imwe kuma kiri ijiri
 deduct one from two
- kuriuka** resurrection (n)
kuriuka gwa Kiristu the resurrec-
 tion of Christ
- kuroria** prophesy (v)
kuroria kuendelea prophesy pros-
 perity
- kuru** dog (n)
kuru nikugamba a dog barks
- kurua** battle (v)
twitite kurua nabo we are going to
 battle them
- kuruka** pass (v)
kethira ugakuruka undingire
thimu if you are passing, call me
- kuthaaka** play (v)
gatukuthaaka we are playing
- kuthera** holy (adj)
iuku riritheru holy book
- kuthinika** suffering (n)
uguaa na kuthinika fear with suf-

fering

kuthira miruki deflate (v)
tairi yaku ikuthira miruki your
 tyre is deflating

kuthiria annul (v)
kuthiria muranu annul a mar-
 riage

kuthuranira preparation (n)
thuranira make preparation

kuthuria annoying (adj)
ni i kuthuria it is annoying to you

kuuga mbuu wailing (n)
kurira na kuuga mbuu crying
 and wailing

kuugia mai fart (n)
mai jawe i ja kununka her fart
 smells badly

kuugithia mainda multiplica-
 tion (n)
ijiri kuugithia mainda na
imwe ni ijiri; guku ni ku-
ugithia mainda $2 \times 1 = 2$; this is
 multiplication

kuuma from (prep)
ita kuuma aja go from here

kuuma tharike bleeding (n)
rigiria kuuma tharike stop the
 bleeding

kuumia dry (v)
kuumia nguo to dry clothes

kuumiria patience (n)
wendo na kuumiria love and pa-
 tience

kuumiriria encouragement (n)
kuumiriria na gukena encour-

agement and joy

kuumiriria comfort (n)
mpa kuumiriria give me comfort
kuura peel off (v)

kuura yumba peel off the plaster
kuura disappear (v)
a kuura she has disappeared

kuura beat (v)
kuura muntu beat someone

kwaria urongo perjury (n)
kwaria urongo kotini perjury in
 court

kwenda need (v)
kwenda mucii to need family

kwenda desire (v)
inkwenda irigu I desire a banana

kwendeka desirable (adj)
ni i kwendeka it is desirable

kwendia hawk (v)
kwendia into hawk things

kwerenca plead with ... (v)
ndakwerenca; itu i plead with
 you; please

kwinaina kwa nthiguru earth-
 quake (n)
nthiguru i kwinaina it is an earth-
 quake

kwinyiha humility (n)
inyihe be humble

kwithirwa being (n)
kwithirwa na U muntu human
 being

kwombika by any chance (adv)
kwombika withirwa ukumwona
 have you seen her by any chance?

L, l

leki lake (n)

leki ikunikara the lake has overflowed

logo logo (n)

logo ya kanisa church logo

lori lorry (n)

kirungamo kia lori lorry stop

M, m

macindano competition (n)

macindano ja mubira jwa

maguru football competition

macokanĩrio argument (n)

Macokanĩrio maingĩ many arguments

maguka ma tene ancestor (n)

maguka makwa ma tene my ancestors

maguru ja ngurwe pigfeet (n)

cubu ya maguru ja ngurwe pigfeet soup

maguta ja naathi palm kernel oil (n)

maguta ja naathi ni jameega ja nciuri palm kernel oil is good for hair

maguta ja ngirisi grease (n)

maguta ja ngirisi jari karaine grease in a pan

maiga stone (n)

maiga na cimiti stones and cement

maili mile (n)

maili ikumi ten miles

maindi buttocks (n)

maindi ja manene big buttocks

makara charcoal (n)

nkunia ya makara sack of charcoal

makathi scissors (n)

mpa makathi give me the scissors

makosa mistake (n)

muntu wonthe omba kuthithia

makosa everyone makes mistakes

makunu mushroom (n)

subu ya makunu mushroom soup

mamba alligator (n)

mamba nĩrĩ mũting'oe an alligator has a tail

mami mother (n)

mwana wa mami ni wetu my mother's child is my sibling

mamira phlegm (n)

angura mamira wipe the phlegm

mamira lean on (v)

mamira lean on me

mandamu madam (n)

mandamu Mary madam Mary

manĩrĩra announcement (n)

Thoma manĩrĩra read the announcement

manyoya ja naathi palmnut wool (n)

manyoya ja naathi jaijaga bwega mono palmnut wool burns well

- marakara** anger (n)
Horeria marakara maku calm your anger
- marii** compensation (n)
ukwona marii jaku? have you received your compensation?
- maromba** prayer (n)
maromba i jamega prayer is good
- mashindano** competition (n)
mashindano ja mubira jwa maguru football competition
- mashini** machine (n)
mashini injeru new machine
- Masindano ja micetho** Olympics (n)
Masindano ja micetho Olympics competition
- mataaro** advice (n)
Mübia niari mataaro a priest has advice
- mataro** advice (n)
mutumiria ari na mataro a priest has advice
- mateta** argument (n)
mateta jamaingi many arguments
- mathanduku** drawers (n)
wikirite mathanduku are you wearing drawers?
- mathangu ja kokoyamu** cocoyam leaves (n)
gitwero kia mathangu ja kokoyamu cocoyam leaves stew
- mathiko** funeral (n)
mbitiite mathiko I am going to a funeral
- mati** junk (n)
kuri na mati nyomba iu there is junk in the room
- matuka** flee (v)
aramatuka he fled
- mbaki** tobacco (n)
nyua mbaki smoke tobacco
- mbaluni** balloon (n)
mbaluni ijiri two balloons
- mbarathi** horse (n)
mbarathi injeru white horse
- mbea** mouse (n)
mbea ineene a big mouse
- mbea** mouse (n)
mbea iinene a big mouse
- mbeca** money (n)
mbeca itethagia money helps
- mbere** in front (prep)
ita mbere go in front
- mbere** before (prep)
ria mbere ya umama eat before (you) sleep
- mbere ya antu** public (n)
u tiumba kuuga ~~***~~ *mbere ya antu* you don't say 'vagina' in public
- mbia** rat (n)
mbia inene a big rat
- mbica** photograph (n)
ringa mbica take a photograph
- mbica** picture (n)
mbica inthongi beautiful picture
- mbluu** blue (adj)
nguo ya rangi ya mbluu blue dress

- mbogisi** box (n)
mbogisi A ni inene kiri mbogisi B
 box A is bigger than box B
- mbui** feather (n)
mbui cia nyoni bird's feathers
- mbuibui** spider (n)
nyomba ya mbuibui spider's web
- mburi** goat (n)
mburi na ngundu a goat and a sheep
- meethene** living room (n)
tukarite nthi meethene we are sitting in the living room
- meethene** living room (n)
tukarite nthii meethene we are sitting in the living room
- meetho** lens (n)
meetho ja kamera lens of a camera
- menya** know (v)
ninkumumenya I know her
- menyera** protect (v)
menyera bautwi protect us
- menyithia** alert (v)
ku ba menyithia alert them
- miromo** lips (n)
miromo imitune red lips
- mirongo inna** duration (n)
igita ria mathaa mirongo inna
 forty-hour duration
- mirugu** god (n)
mirungu ya kwithondekera dependable god
- miruki** breath (n)
kuucia miruki; nogoka collect your breath; rest
- mita** meter (n)
mita ikumi ten meters
- mita** metre (n)
 length metric; meter (American English) *mita ikumi ten metres*
- mitugo** manner (n)
mitugo yawe ni imithongi his manner is amusing
- mitugo** habit (n)
mitugo imithuku bad habit
- mitugo** character (n)
mitugo yawe her character
- mkulima** farmer (n)
ni mkulima she is a farmer
- mono** very much (adv)
ibwega mono thank you very much
- mono** too much (adv)
arumanaga mono he insults too much
- mpaka** cat (n)
mpaka iri na muthirinya a cat has a tail
- mpaka** cat (n)
mpaka iri na munyiritha a cat has a tail
- mpakuri** collander (n)
tumira mpakuri kunyaria ruuji
mucherene use the collander to drain the rice
- mpara** hunger (n)
mpara na nyonta hunger and thirst
- mpempe** corn (n)
mpempe na ncugu karanga corn and groundnuts

- mpio** cold (adj)
ruuji ruri na mpio cold water
- mpio** cold temperature (n)
utuku buri na mpio night is cold
- muaandiki** journalist (n)
turi aandiki we are journalists
- Mūafrika** African (n)
 someone from Africa *Ndĩ*
Mūafrika I am an African
- muajie** patient (n)
ajie bararaga aja the patients
 sleep here
- mubira** ball (n)
thaka mubira play ball
- mubira** pipe (n)
ruuji rwa mubira pipe water
- mucemano** meeting (n)
kansa mucemano cancel the
 meeting
- mucetho** game (n)
thaka mucetho play a game
- muchere** rice (n)
muchere na mboco rice and beans
- mucibi** film (n)
thaka mucibi cast of a film
- mucore** friend (n)
mucore wakwa my friend
- mucore umwega** good friend
 (n)
turi acore babega sana we are
 very good friends
- mucoriru** bud (v)
mpempe ni ikuma mucoriru the
 maize is budding
- mucumari** nail (n)
mucumari na kimuti plank and
 nail
- Mūgaa** January (n)
January has 31 days
- mugambi** judge (n)
agambi mugwanja seven judges
- mugambo** language (n)
migambo i mingi many languages
- mugate** bread (n)
mugate jumworo soft bread
- mugeka** mat (n)
tamburukia mugeka spread out a
 mat
- mugeka** mat (n)
tandika mugeka spread out a mat
- mugeni** guest ()
uni ndi mugeni I am a guest
- mugeni** guest (n)
ndi mugeni I am a guest
- Mūgetho** February (n)
February has 28 or 29 days
- mūgima** adult (n)
nĩ mūdũ mūgima he is an adult
- Mūgiranjara** August (n)
August has 31 days
- mugunye** shade (n)
nkariite mugunyene I am sitting
 under the shade
- mugurani** groom (n)
mucore wa mugurani groom's
 friends
- muguuta jwa ngombe** cowhide
 (n)

- waache na muguuta jwa ngombe*
waache and cowhide
- mugwatia wa ikuyu** fisherman
 (n)
ni mugwatia wa ikuyu he is a fisherman
- mugwongo** ivory (n)
mukathi jwa mugwongo ivory necklace
- muiki** bride (n)
mukuru wa muiki; muikithania bride's husband; groom
- muikithania** groom (n)
acore ba muikithania groom's friends
- mũini** musician (n)
the musicians
- mukarire** disposition (n)
mukarire jwa muntu a person's disposition
- mukathi** gaudy (adj)
mukathi jukwonekana gaudy necklace
- mukathi** necklace (n)
Mukathi jwa mugwongo ivory necklace
- mukawa** hotel (n)
araraga mukawa ene she sleeps at a hotel
- mukiristu** Christian (n)
mukiristu na muisilamu a Christian and a Muslim
- mukobo** loan (n)
ikwenda mukobo I need a loan
- mukuru** husband (n)
impendete mukuru wakwa I love my husband
- mukuru** elder (adj)
mwana wetu uria mukuru my elder sibling
- mukuru umukuru** old man (n)
Ni mukuru umukuru he is an old man
- mukwacii** cassava (n)
marigu na mukwacii plantain and cassava
- mulango** door (n)
inga mulango close the door
- mumbi** creator (n)
ngai mumbi creator god
- mumero** throat (n)
theria mumero clear your throat
- munda** land (n)
gura munda buy land
- mundu** dark (adj)
utuku buri na mundu dark night
- mundu** darkness (n)
utuku buretaga mundu night brings darkness
- munene** almighty (adj)
ngai munene almighty god
- munene** king (n)
ni munene he is a king
- munene wa nthiguru** president (n)
munene wa nthiguru agukinya the president has arrived
- munta** inject (v)
munta inject me
- munthu** enemy (n)
anthu bakanoga enemies will tire

- muntu** person (n)
muntu wa bata important person
- muntu** master (n)
Muntu Kofi Master Kofi
- muntu mugima** adult (n)
ni muntu mugima he is an adult
- muntu muka** woman (n)
muntu muka umuthongi a pretty woman
- muntu murume** gentleman (n)
muntu murume u munene senior gentleman
- muntu utiumii** dimwit (adj)
kiaa! muntu utiumii! Fool!
Dimwit!
- muntu wa gukamata mirigo** porter (n)
muntu wa gukamata mirigo aka-mataga kibogisi the porter carries a box
- muntu wa gutethia antu** philanthropist (n)
we ni muntu wa gutethia antu she is a philanthropist
- muntu wa kumama na aka ouu** philanderer (n)
uciethetie muntu wa kumama na aka ouu you have made yourself a philanderer
- muntu wetu** relative (n)
ni muntu wetu he is a relative
- munyanya** concubine (n)
yaa ni munyanya wakwa Yaa is my concubine
- Muoria Nyoni** July (n)
July has 31 days
- muragani** murderer (n)
ni muragani he is a murderer
- murashi jwa kuthambia maigo** toothbrush (n)
murashi jwa kuthambia maigo na ndawa toothbrush and tooth-paste
- murigitathi** nurse (n)
ni murigitathi she is a nurse
- murimo** sickness (n)
urina murimo juriku what sickness have you?
- murimo** disease (n)
oria murimo heal disease
- muringiti** blanket (n)
muringiti juri na ruuji wet blanket
- murio** sweet (adj)
chai iri na murio the tea is sweet
- muriti wa ngugi** maid (n)
ni muriti wa ngugi she is a maid
- muromo** mouth (n)
muromo jwakwa my mouth
- murongo** liar (n)
arongo bathatu three liars
- murugi** chieftain (n)
ni murugi she is a chieftain
- muruki** smell (n)
ni nkuigua muruki I sense a smell
- muruki** fragrance (n)
muruki juu ni jwa batta the fragrance of sheabutter

murururu lizard (n)
murururu jurijaga nyaki a lizard
 eats grass

musiki music (n)
ina musiki play music

musingi foundation (n)
musingi jwa nyomba foundation
 of the house

mutanocia brother (n)
mutanocia wakwa my only
 brother

Mūthaatū April (n)
April has 30 days

muthao lazy (adj)
muntu muthao lazy man

Muthenya jwa ina Thursday (n)
twana twa Muthenya jwa ina
 Thursday children

Muthenya jwa iri Tuesday (n)
Twana twa muthenya jwa iri
 Tuesday children

Muthenya jwa ithatu Wednesday (n)
twana twa Muthenya jwa ithatu
 Wednesday children

Muthenya jwa kiumia Sunday (n)
Kimathi na Nkirote baciariwe
Muthenya jwa kiumia Kwasi and
 Akosua are Sunday children

Muthenya jwa mwambirio jwa kiumia Monday (n)
twana twa Muthenya jwa mwambirio jwa kiumia Monday
 children

muthetu brown (adj)
nyoni ya rangi ya muthetu brown
 bird

muthetu ash (n)
makara na muthetu charcoal and
 ashes

muthetu jwa yumba clay (n)
Glasi ya muthetu jwa yumba clay
 vase

muthia end (n)
muthia jugukinya the end has
 come

muthikiri listener (n)
mugeni athikiri hello listeners

muthirinya tail (n)
mpaka iri na muthirinya a cat
 has a tail

muthirinya penis (n)
utiumba kuuga 'muthirinya'
mbere ya antu you don't say
 'penis' in public

muti jwa kiegeri broomstick (n)
miti ikumi ya biegeri ten broom-
 sticks

muti jwa kuringa gitaru paddle (n)
*gitaru na muti jwa kuringa gi-
 taru* canoe and paddle

mutongerira leader (n)
uju niwe mutongerira wetu this is
 our leader

mutumiiria priest (n)
mutumiiria ari na mataro a
 priest has advice

mutumiria bishop (n)
ni mutumiria she is a bishop

- mutumwa** messenger (n)
atumwa ibakinyire the messengers arrived
- mutungi** bucket (n)
mutungi juturiki the bucket leaks
- mutungi** barrel (n)
ujuria mutungi fill up the barrel
- mutungi** pail (n)
mutungi na thabuni pail and soap
- mutungi** jar (n)
mitungi mugwanja seven jars
- muturiru** flute (n)
rwimbo rwa muturiru flute music
- mutuu** flour (n)
mutuu jwa mpempe corn flour
- mutwe** headache (n)
mutheega jwa mutwe headache medicine
- mutwe** headache (n)
ndwa ya mutwe headache medicine
- muubira** elastic (adj)
murigi jwa muubira elastic string
- muuko** pocket (n)
gutikio kiri ndene ya muuko
jwakwa nothing inside my pocket
- muuma** oath (n)
muuma jungwa great oath
- muunda** farm (n)
munda jwa cocoua cocoa farm
- muundu kugwaa** nightfall (n)
muthenya na muundu kugwaa daybreak and nightfall
- muuragani** murderer (n)
ni muuragani he is a murderer
- muuri** pestle (n)
muuri na ntiri pestle and mortar
- mwaandiki** writer (n)
uni ndi mwaandiki I am a writer
- mwaburi** umbrella (n)
kara nthii rungu rwa mwaburi sit under the umbrella
- Mwafrika** African (n)
Uuni ni Mwafrika I am an African
- mwago** luxury (n)
ndiona mwago uturone bwaku I see luxury in your future
- mwaka** year (n)
mwaka jumweru jugukinya a new year has come
- mwalimu** teacher (n)
uni ndi mwalimu I am a teacher
- mwamba** thief (n)
ti mwamba he is not a thief
- mwana** toddler (n)
mwana, inaa witite toddler, where are you going?
- mwana** child (n)
mwana wa mami ni muntu wetu my mother's child is my sibling
- mwana** baby (n)
ndina mwana I have a baby
- mwananchi** citizen (n)
Uni ni mwananchi I am a citizen

- mwanki** hot (adj)
ruuji ruri na mwanki hot water
- mwanki** fire (n)
gwatia mwanki light the fire
- mwari** damsel (n)
mwari uju nathongi this damsel is pretty
- mwari** miss (n)
mwari na kaari kaniini lady and young lady
- mwari** girl (n)
mwari umuraaja tall girl
- mwario ng'ina** sister (n)
mwario ng'ina wakwa wenka my only sister
- mwekuru** wife (n)
mwekuru wakwa na twana twakwa my wife and my children
- mwekuru** missus (n)
mwekuru wa Clinton Missus Clinton
- mwekuru umukuru** old lady (n)
mwekuru umukuru wakwa my old lady
- mwendwa wakwa** beloved (n)
mwendwa wakwa agumpairia my beloved has tricked me
- mweri** month (n)
mweri jumwe one month
- mweri** moon (n)
mweri na jota moon and stars
- Mweri jwa ikumi** October (n)
Mweri jwa ikumi jwithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu na imwe October has 31 days
- Mweri jwa ikumi na jumwe** November (n)
Mweri jwa ikumi na jumwe jwithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu November has 30 days
- Mweri jwa Ina** April (n)
Mweri jwa Ina jwithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu April has 30 days
- Mweri jwa inana** August (n)
Mweri jwa inana jwithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu na imwe August has 31 days
- Mweri jwa iri** February (n)
Mweri jwa iri jwithagitwa na ntuku mirongo iri na inana kana mirongo iri na kenda February has 28 or 29 days
- Mweri jwa itantatu** June (n)
Mweri jwa itantatu jwithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu June has 30 days
- Mweri jwa kenda** September (n)
Mweri jwa kenda jwithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu September has 30 days
- Mweri jwa mugwanja** July (n)
Mweri jwa mugwanja juithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu na imwe July has 31 days
- Mweri jwa mwambirio** January (n)
Mweri jwa mwambirio juithagirwa na ntuku mirongo ithatu na imwe January has 31 days

mwiri flesh (n)
mwiri na tharike flesh and blood
mwitu bush (n)
ita mwitune go into the bush
mwoyo living (adj)
Ngai uri mwoyo living god

N, n

na and (conj)
Kofi na Ama Kofi and Ama
na and (conj)
Kofi na Ama Kofi and Ama
nanasi pineapple (n)
ruuji rwa nanasi pineapple juice
nanasi pineapple (n)
juici ya nanasi pineapple juice
narua today (adv)
agakinya narua she arrives today

nasi nurse (n)
ni nasi she is a nurse
nau mbere future (n)
ndiona maisha ja raha nau mbere I see luxury in your future
nceege porcupine (n)
irinya ria nceege porcupine hole
nceera jail (n)
ita nceera go to jail
nceera prison (n)
ita nceera go to prison
nchana alligator (n)
nchana iri na muthirinya an alligator has a tail
nchiuri hair (n)
nchiuri cia kibara chest hair

ncini pepper (n)
ncini ni ikuithia the pepper burns
nciuri cia riitho eyebrow (n)
riitho na nciuri cia riitho eye and eyebrow
ncoobi liquor (n)
ikira ncoobi niini pour a little liquor
ncugu groundnut (n)
mpeme na ncugu corn and groundnuts
ncugu groundnut (n)
mpempe na ncugu corn and groundnuts
ncuma metal (n)
kobia ya ncuma hat of metal
nda abdomen (n)
Nda ya ngui abdomen of a dog
ndagika minute (n)
ndagika ithano five minutes
ndagitari doctor (n)
ni ndagitari she is a doctor
ndawa medicine (n)
ndawa iri na ng'ana bitter medicine
ndawa ya kuthambia maigo toothpaste (n)
murashi na ndawa ya kuthambia maigo toothbrush and toothpaste
ndege aeroplane (n)
ndege igiri two aeroplanes
ndege aeroplane (n)
ndege ijiri two aeroplanes

- ndekera** forgive (v)
ndekera maitia jakwa forgive me my wrong
- ndene** inside (adv)
ita'ndene go inside
- ndene** in (prep)
iri ndene ya nyomba it is in the house
- ndereba** driver (n)
ndereba aguikira breki the driver has braked
- ndimu** lime (n)
juici ya ndimu lime juice
- ndirisha** window (n)
rugura ndirisha open the windows
- ndito** heavy (adj)
ni i ndito it is heavy
- ndomba** be able to (v)
ndomba kuthuta muti I am able to climb a tree
- ndua** battle (n)
twitite kiri ndua we are going to battle
- ndua** fight (v)
Ali na Frayier ni bari na ndua Ali and Frazier fought
- nduume** mist (n)
nduume ya ruukiri morning mist
- ndwaa** battle (n)
twitite ndwaaene we are going to battle
- nene** great (adj)
ritwa ri ri nene a great name
- nene** big (adj)
Adaе u mu-nene Big Adaе
- ng'ondu** sheep (n)
nyama ya ng'ondu sheep meat (i.e. mutton)
- ng'ana** bitter (adj)
ndawa iri na ng'ana bitter medicine
- ngaloni** gallon (n)
ngaloni ya ruuji a gallon of water
- nganira** befit (v)
ni bugukunganira it befits you
- ngara** bruise (v)
waringa rwagi na muthuro wanga kirona giaku you swat the fly in anger and you bruise your wound
- ngaranji** garage (n)
ngaranji ya ngari car garage
- ngari** car (n)
itithia ngari drive a car
- ngari** car (n)
ngari twiw kaar
- ngatunyi** lion (n)
ngatunyi irijaga nyama a lion eats flesh
- ngecere** bow-legged (adj)
muntu murume uri na ngecere bow-legged man
- ngii** fly (n)
ngii niburukaga a fly flies
- ngii** blowfly (n)
ngii ni ithuragia mono blowflies are annoying

ngii housefly (n)
ngii yomba gukamata mirimo a
 housefly can carry disease
ngoga miserly (adj)
ari na ngoga he is miserly
ngombe cow (n)
nyama yangombe cow meat; beef
ngong ngong gong gong (n)
thaka ngong ngong play the gong
 gong
ngorogoro storm (n)
ngorogoro na nkwa storm with
 thunder
nguo attire (n)
nguo yaku ni inthongi mono your
 attire is beautiful
nguo clothes (n)
gura nguo buy clothes
ngurwe pig (n)
ngurwe imwe ni cia pinki some
 pigs are pink
ngutu gossip (n)
ngutu ti injega gossip is not good
ngutu gossip (n)
ngutu ti inthongi gossip is not
 good
ngwataniro association (n)
ija ngwatanirone ya arume ya
gutirimana come to the men's as-
 sociation meeting
niĩ I (p)
niĩndiaga I eat
niini little (n)
ikira ncoobi niini pour a little
 liquor

niki why (adv)
niki uu? why so?
ningwa myself (p)
ni nciendete ningwa I love myself
niuntu because (conj)
niuntu ni nkwendete because I
 like you
niuntu buu in that case (adv)
niuntu buu ija in that case come
njaa home (n)
njaa yenu your home
njara arm (n)
ukiria njara yaku lift up your arm
njara hand (n)
ukiria njara yaku lift up your
 hand
njira way (n)
njira the way
njogu elephant (n)
njogu ni inene an elephant is very
 big
njointi joint (n)
kuucia jointi ciaku stretch your
 joints
njoka snake (n)
njoka iti maguru a snake has no
 legs
Njuma Saturday (n)
 day of the week *Ciana cia Njuma*
 Saturday children
njuno fable (n)
atiitikagia njuno one does not be-
 lieve fables

nkaatho praise (n)

niabaterie nkaatho she deserves praise

nkai groin (n)

nkai cia muntu-murume groin of a man

nkai penis (n)

u tiumba kuuga "nkai" mbere ya kirindi you don't say 'penis' in public

nkamira camel (n)

nkamira ithanthatu six camels

nkara egg (n)

nkara ya nguku chicken egg

nkathi ladder (n)

nkathi indaaja long ladder

nkiaa indigent (n)

nkiaa iti gantu an indigent has nothing

nkingo neck (n)

Tai ikaraga nkingo the tie hangs on his neck

nkingo neck (n)

tai icuraga nkingo the tie hangs on his neck

nkobia hat (n)

Ni ekirite nkobia he is wearing a hat

nkoro soul (n)

nkoro yakwa ni iguukiiria my soul exults

nkoro heart (n)

nkoro injega good heart

nkuaa armpit (n)

nkuaa ikununka smelly armpit

nkunia sack (n)

guti gintu kiri ndene ya nkunia yakwa nothing inside my sack

nkunkwa orange (n)

makunkwa jathatu three oranges

nkuru tortoise (n)

nkuru itaga kaora a tortoise walks slowly

nkuruki than (conj)

ni umuraja nkuruki yakwa he is taller than me

nkuu firewood (n)

jukia nkuu pickup firewood

ntaka mud (n)

Thambia ntaka wash the mud

ntanta drop (n)

nguku inyunyaga ruuji ntanta na ntanta drop by drop a chicken drinks water

ntariki date (v)

ugampa ntariki will you date me?

ntariki date (n)

Narua i ntariki ingana? which date is today?

nteremente toffee (n)

ria nteremente lick a toffee

nthao disgrace (n)

aibu na nthao shame and disgrace

nthata barren (adj)

muntu-muka nthata barren woman

nthiguru nation (n)

nthiguru yako your nation

nthiguru world (n)
twana twa nthiguru children of the world
nthiguru country (n)
nthiguru yaku your country
nthiguru floor (n)
nthiguru on the floor
nthii down (adv)
ita nthii go down
nthii earth (n)
antu ba nthii people of the earth
nthingiri ant (n)
nthingiri ngiri thousands of ants
nthongi nice (adj)
mithithie itwike inthongi make it nice
nthoroko bean (n)
mucere na nthoroko rice and beans
nthua louse (n)
nthua cia nguku chicken lice
ntigwa widowed (adj)
ntumurume ntigwa widowed man
ntina not have (v)
ntina mbeca indi ndina utonga I don't have money but I have property
ntiri mortar (n)
muti na ntiri pestle and mortar
ntuku day (n)
ntuku igukinya the day has arrived
ntuku cionthe daily (adv)
ejaga aja ntuku cionthe he comes here daily

ntuku inyanya eight days (n)
eteera ntuku inyanya wait eight days
ntuku ya guciarwa birthday (n)
Narua ni ntuku ya guciarwa yakwa today is my birthday
ntumurume man (n)
ntumurume u muraaja a tall man
ntumurume male (n)
Mandela ni ntumurume Mandela is male
ntumurume man (n)
ntumurume u muraja a tall man
ntumwa message (n)
riria ntumwa yakinyire when the message arrived
ntunda fruit (n)
tua ntunda pluck fruit
ntuntuguru owl (n)
ntuntuguru ni nyoni an owl is a bird
ntura neighbourhood (n)
ntukaraga ntura imwe we live in the same neighbourhood
ntuti suddenly (adv)
yejire ntuti it came suddenly
ntuti quickly (adv)
ita ntuti you walk quickly
ntuti immediately (adv)
tigana nayo ntuti cut off immediately
nusu ya kilo gram (n)
nusu ikumi cia kilo ten grams
nyaki grass (n)
ng'ombe ithagumagia nyaki a

cow chews grass

nyaki grass (n)

ngombe irijaga nyaki a cow chews grass

nyama beef (n)

ria nyama eat beef

nyama meat (n)

nyama ya mburi goat meat

nyama ya ngurwe pork (n)

nyama ya ngurwe iri na murio
pork is tasty

nyanya tomato (n)

nyanya ijiri two tomatoes

nyingi many (adj)

ngari i nyingi many vehicles

nyiuru nose (n)

gutu na nyiuru ear and nose

nyomba house (n)

nyomba the house

nyomba ya kuthambira bath-
room (n)

Ita nyomba ya kuthambira go to
the bathroom.

nyomba ya mbunge parliament
house (n)

*kumuthura gwita nyomba ya
mbunge* elect her to go to parlia-
ment house

nyomba ya ngoroba storey
building (n)

ningwaka nyomba ya ngoroba I
am building a storey building

nyongu pot (n)

nyongu ya cuuma metal pot

nyoni bird (n)

nyoni ikuburuka a bird flies

nyonta thirst (n)

ndina nyonta I feel thirst (I am
thirsty)

nyonto breast (n)

iria ria nyonto breast milk

nyoroco leopard (n)

nyoroco iri na muthirinya a leop-
ard has a tail

nyuma behind (prep)

ita nyuma go behind

nyuma ya nyomba backyard (n)

*nyuma ya nyomba ikugia iria
mono* the backyard is overgrown

O, o

omba maybe (adv)

omba kwija maybe he will come

oria extinguish (v)

oria rumuri extinguish the flame

oria heal (v)

kuoria murimo heal disease

ou as (adv)

ou i kari as it is

P, p

pinki pink (adj)

ngurwe imwe ni cia rangi ya

pinki some pigs are pink

pointi full stop (n)

imwe pointi ithano ni nusu 1.5 is
one and a half.

printa printer (n)

printa ya mauku book printer

printi print (v)
printi barua print the email

R, r

raisi easy (adj)
kigeranio kiri raisi the exam is easy

raisi cheap (adj)
kuithirwa raisi be cheap

rangi ink (n)
rangi ya karamu ink in a pen
rangi ya mathangu greenish (adj)

nyomba iri na rangi ya mathangu greenish house

rangira guard (v)
rangira nyomba guard the house

ria pay (v)
nkaria I will pay

ria eat (v)
ku ria bionthe to eat everything

riboti report (n)
thithia riboti make a report

riganirua forget (v)
nkuriganirua I have forgotten

riikone kitchen (n)
ndi riikone I am in the kitchen

riitho eye (n)
riitho eye and eyebrow

riitho eyeball (n)
riitho eye and eyeball

riitwa name (n)
riitwa riaku my name

riko kitchen (n)
ndi rikone I am in the kitchen

ringa click (v)
ringa aja click here
 ringa mbica draw (v)
ringa mbica ya nyoni draw a bird

ringa mpaii clap (v)
kuringa mpaii cia Yaa to clap for Yaa

rĩngĩ again (adv)
muone rĩngĩ see her again

rira cry (v)
rira igita rionthe to cry each time

ritithia email (n)
ritithia baruga e rugo print the email

riu then (adv)
riu aramama then he slept

riua sun (n)
riua ni rikwara the sun is shining

romba pray (v)
romba niuntu bwa antu bakwa to pray for my enemies

romba beg (v)
kuromba gintu beg for something

romba borrow (v)
romba mbeca borrow money

rota dream (v)
kurota mono to dream a lot

rubau plank (n)
rubau na musumari plank and nail

rubunguro key (n)
murango na rubunguro door and

- key
ruga cook (v)
ruga mucere jumukai cook a little rice
ruga make (v)
ruga irio make food
ruga bake (v)
ruga mugate bake bread
rugai inheritance (n)
tetera rugai rwaku claim your inheritance
rugono blog (n)
rugono rwa irio food blog
rugono rwa karaja history (n)
thoma rugono rwa karaja learn history
rugura open (v)
nkurugura mwari I open the door

ruguru north (adj)
ita bwa ruguru go north
Rui blow (n)
muringe rui give him a blow
ruko dishevelled (adj)
muntu o ruko dishevelled self
ruma insult (v)
tiga kumuruma stop insulting her

ruma bite (v)
kuru yomba ku ruma the dog can bite
ruma insult (n)
irumi bibiingi many insults
rumena hatred (n)
rumena ruti mutheega hatred has no cure

rungika brake (v)
ndereva akurungika ngari the driver has braked
rūraya abroad (n)
Niathiaga rūraya she goes abroad

rurigi string (n)
rurigi na sindano string and needle
ruuji water (n)
nyua ruuji you drink water
ruuju tomorrow (adv)
agakinya ruuju she will arrive tomorrow
ruukiri morning (n)
ruukiri kiroko early morning
ruukiri early (adj)
ruukiri kiroko early morning
ruukiri kiroko dawn (n)
ruukiri kiroko thaa kumi na ijiri 6am
ruuko filthy (adj)
kuri na ruuko the place is filthy
ruumu ya kumama bedroom (n)
nyomba iri na ruumu cia kumama ijiri the house has two bedrooms
ruuo wind (n)
ruuo ni rikuurutana the wind is blowing
rwagi mosquito (n)
rwagi rukunduma a mosquito has bitten me
rwanda desert (n)
rwanda guti ruuji water is scarce

in the desert
rwego fence (n)
nyuma ya rwego behind a fence
rwembeeria gutter (n)
kurina ruuji kiri rwembeeria
 there is water in the gutter
rwemberiene ledge (n)
mama rwemberiene sleep on the
 ledge
rwiro race (n)
ugia rwiro run a race
rwongo abroad (n)
Nietaga rwongo she goes abroad

S, s

senema cinema (n)
mbitite senema I am going to a
 cinema
siasa politics (n)
wendete siasa you like politics
simiti cement (n)
maiga na simiti stones and cement
sindano needle (n)
rurigi na sindano string and nee-
 dle
sinema cinema (n)
Mbitite kwona sinema I am going
 to a cinema
siri password (n)
Garura siri change password
starehe luxury (n)
Ndiona starehe maishene jaku ja
nau mbere I see luxury in your fu-
 ture

T, t

ta discard (v)
ta mubira discard the ball
taika vomit (n)
mataika ja kuru dog's vomit
takuna chew (v)
gutakuna nchugu to chew
 groundnuts
tambarare flat (adj)
metha tambarare flat table
tandika lantern (n)
gwatia tandika turn on the
 lantern
tanga harass (v)
ni uguntanga you are harassing
 me
tanga hassle (v)
kumutanga kenda aria hassle
 him so that he pays
tara count (v)
tara mbeca count money
tayari ready (adv)
ndi tayari I am ready
tega kuraja look away (v)
ningutega kuraja I look away
teta quarrel (n)
iteta ririnene a big quarrel
thaa ii now (adv)
ita thaa ii go now
thaa ingi later (adv)
bakaria thaa ingi they will eat
 later
thaa inyanya afternoon (n)
nkeja thaa inyanya I will come in
 the afternoon

- thaabu** gold (n)
miruki i mithongi na thaabu fragrance and gold
thaaka cast (n)
thaaka itinda cast of a film
thaani plate (n)
thambia thaani yaku wash your plate
thamba bath (v)
kuthamba o rukiri runthe to bath each morning
thambia clean (v)
thambia maigo jaku clean your teeth
thara grab (v)
thara njara yawe grab his hand
tharike blood (n)
ruuji na tharike water and blood
tharima bless (v)
ntharima bless me
theruka boil (v)
subu ni ikutheruka the soup is boiling
thia grind (v)
kuthia mpempe to grind corn
thigara cigarette (n)
nyua thigara smoke a cigarette
thigiriri ant (n)
Makiri ma thigiriri thousands of ants
thiina plague (n)
guti thiina aja no plagues there
thiiri peace (n)
ndiinda thiiri I want peace
thika bury (v)
thika kiimba bury a corpse
- thikiria** listen (v)
kuthikiria rwimbo to listen to music
thingata follow (v)
nthingata follow me
thinka doze (v)
niukuthinka you are dozing
thiria pacify (v)
thiria ndua pacify the fight
thoko market (n)
ita thoko go to market
thoma learn (v)
thoma mugambo they learn a language
thugania figure (v)
uri thugania ni bu buumo you figure it is hard?
thukia defile (v)
ugacithukia do not defile yourself
thungutha jump (v)
kuthungutha ruthingo to jump a wall
thura hate (v)
kuthura uthao to hate laziness
thuura nominate (v)
thuura igita name a time
thuuta climb (v)
thuuta irima to climb mountains
tia honour (v)
tia Ngai honour the Lord
tigiti ticket (n)
tega tigiti yakwa look at my ticket
tinga except (conj)
tinga Ngai except God

tiria cancel (v)
tiria mucemano cancel the meeting
tirima bump into (v)
ngari igutirima gintu the car has bumped into something
tirima meet (v)
ntirima nja meet me at home
toi smoke (n)
kurita toi belch smoke
tonya enter (v)
tonya nyomba enter into the room

tumiiria announce (v)
tumiiria atiri announce that
tura pierce (v)
tura matu jaku pierce your ear

U, u

uciathi independence (n)
ntuku ya uciathi independence day
ucuru porridge (n)
ucuru bwa ugimbi millet porridge

ugia mai fart (v)
muntu akugia mai someone has farted
ugima bwa mwiri health (n)
irio biejaga muntu ugimā mwa mwiri food gives health
ugimbi millet (n)
ucuru bwa ugimbi millet porridge

ugoro evening (n)
irio bia ugoro; irio evening meal; dinner
uguri price (n)
uguri bwayo its price?
uguriruo revelation (n)
niari na uguriruo he had a revelation
ugwaa fear (n)
ugwaa buujirite nkoro yawe fear has filled her heart
ugwati chaotic (adj)
guntu kuri na ugwati the place is chaotic
uhuru liberty (n)
turi na uhuru we have liberty

Ū, ũ

Ūithīramu Islam (n)
Ūkristo na Ūithīramu Christianity and Islam

U, u

ujuria fill (v)
ujuria iu fill it
ujuria fill up (v)
ujuria itangi fill up the barrel
uki honey (n)
uki buri na murio honey is sweet
ukia covetousness (n)
ukia butibui covetousness is not good

ukia poverty (n)

ukia kana utonga poverty or wealth

ukiiria exult (v)

nkoro yakwa igukiiria my soul exults

ukiria lift (v)

ukiria iguru to lift higher

uma tharike bleed (v)

ni akuma tharike he is bleeding

umiiria encourage (v)

mue kuumiiria encourage her

umithio consequence (n)

umithio bwayo its consequences

umuntu human ()

turi na umuntu we are humans

umutho left (adj)

ita ruteere rwa umutho go left

umuthongi pretty (adj)

muntu muka umuthongi a pretty woman

umwe one (p)

umwe atitikanitie na ngono iu
one does not believe fables

una break (v)

una muti break the stick

ungania mix (v)

ungania nyanya na ncini to mix
tomatoes and pepper

unthu enmity (n)

unthu bubunene great enmity

untu issue (n)

untu bubueru new issue

untu issue (n)

untu buu bweru new issue

ura get lost (v)

ura uri tauni to get lost in town

uraga murder (n)

kuguuta na kuraga gossip and murder

uraga kill (v)

uraga mburi to kill a goat

urekaniri forgiveness (n)

wendo, witikio na urekaniri love,
acceptance and forgiveness

uri na inya powerful (adj)

kiroria uri na inya powerful
prophet

uria ask (v)

uria Kofi ask Kofi

urio east (adj)

ita urio go east

urio right (adj)

ita urio go right

urongo lie (n)

urongo na ukora lies and discord

urongo deception (n)

urongo na kurega kugwatanira
deception and discord

ururu painful (adj)

mbajua iri ururu illness is painful

urururu pain (n)

urururu buri aja the pain is here

utethio help (n)

muntu wonthe niendete utethio
everyone needs help

utheri mere (adj)

kiaa utheri mere fool

uthiu forehead (n)

tega uthiu bwawe look at her fore-

head
uthiu face (n)
tega uthiu bwakwa look at my face
uthongi fetish (n)
tauni iiji iri na uthongi this town has a fetish
uthongi beauty (n)
Uthongi na wendo beauty and love

uthuku evil (n)
ni uthuku buriku buubu? which evil is this?

uthurania gather (v)
uthurania antu bonthe gather everyone

uthurania collect (v)
kuthurania mbeca to collect money

utuku nightfall (n)
muthenya na utuku daybreak and nightfall

utuku night (n)
thaa ijiri cia utuku 8 o'clock in the night

utuuro life (n)
tura utuuro bwaku live your life well

uu that (conj)
nidikuga uu I say that

uu who (p)
nuu uu? who is he?

ugira blow (v)
ugira miruki blow air

uuma rangi fade (v)
ngui ikuuma rangi the cloth has

faded
uumba create (v)
uumba gintu gikieru create something new
uume knowledge (n)
uume bunthe thigurune all knowledge in the world
uuna cross (v)
uuna ruuji cross the stream

W, w

waa folly (n)
ni waa butheri it is just folly
Wairi Tuesday (n)
ciana cia Wairi Tuesday children

wamba burglary (n)
wamba bukingia burglary is increasing

watho law (n)
watho bugite the law says

we her (p)
nyomba yawe her house

we his (p)
nyomba ya we his house

we he (p)
we niarjaga he eats

wembe razor (n)
noora wembe sharpen the razor

Wena Thursday (n)
ciana cia Wena Thursday children

wendi will (n)
wendi bwa Ngai God's will

- wendo** love (n)
wendo na thiiri love and peace
wengwa yourselves (p)
cimenyere wengwa bwega look after yourselves well
wengwa herself (p)
niaciete gitio wengwa she respects herself
wengwa himself (p)
niaciete gitio wengwa he respects himself
wenka only (adj)
ugwe wenka only you
weru light (n)
weru bwa iguru light of the sky
Wetano Friday (n)
Ciana cia Wetano Friday children
- Wetatū** Wednesday (n)
ciana cia Wetatū Wednesday children
wingi plenty (adj)
mauntu ja maingi plenty of issues
- wirane** promise (n)
mpa wirane give me a promise
wirane promise (v)
mpa wirane promise me
wirane testament (n)
wirane bu bweru new testament
wirigiro hope (n)
ndina wirigiro I have hope
witikio faith (n)
witikio na thiiri faith and peace
- yakwa** mine (p)
ni biakwa this thing is mine
yawe hers (p)
iji ni yawe this thing is hers
yetu our (p)
nyomba yetu our house
yetu ours (p)
uuni na Kofi, iji ni yetu I and Kofi, this thing is ours
yiumba creation (n)
yiumba rionthe all creation
yonthe entire (adj)
nyomba yonthe the entire house
yonthe totally (adv)
yonthe ni iire it is totally burnt

Y, y

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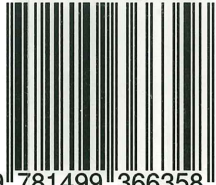


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